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SURVEY OF AGENCY OVERSEAS MEDICAL

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SURVEY OF AGENCY OVERSEAS MEDICAL

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A survey of Agency overseas medical was accomplished between 1 July 1955 and 25 July 1955 by the Medical Staff as represented by the Chief, Medical Staff, and Chief, Psychiatric Division. Purpose of this survey was to inspect, evaluate, and provide medical support.

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The itinerary included

The following is a report of survey; recommendations, pertinent to current operations, are included.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

- 1. The survey was conducted at a time when Far East activities are engaged in entrenchment and development of operations for the long pull against a most difficult opponent.
- 2. Surroundings and conditions of the Orient are strange and remain basically foreign to the Occidental after extended periods of familiarization. The non-Oriental has great need to bring his own culture with him. This need applies to our people and is evident within the many base and station activities that tend to reproduce the familiar environment of home. Much energy, time, and money is spent for the purpose of making life tolerable so that the basic mission may be pursued. Areas where such activity is impossible or impracticable are looked upon as hardship posts.
- 3. Oriental culture promotes difficulties in operations as well as living. The size of the task is well recognized and calculated. The operational experience of the past several years, while perhaps costly 25X1C in basic essentials, has generally served to divorce illusion from reality in terms of program capabilities.

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GENERAL CONCLUSIONS

- 1. With its natural advantages, Asia constitutes a most difficult and most logical battle field of the cold war.
- 2. The Agency should continue to extend a sympathetic ear to the stated needs of our overseas people and seek by legislation where authority does not exist those rights and benefits for employees and dependents conducive to optimal conditions of living.

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- 3. Closer relationship exists between field and Headquarters than previously noted. Considerable opportunity remains for improvement. Geographic distance and inherent communication difficulties do not lend to mutual understanding. Continuation of the career program, the publishing of policy directives, the mutual transfer of activities information, and the interchange of TDY visits will continue to add solution of problems of understanding.
- 4. In general, the quality of overseas personnel is good. The incidence of the mis-fit has decreased appreciably since the previous inspection trip of 1953. Station chiefs and base chiefs are universal in their expressed desire for careful selection of potential overseas assignees and the screening of dependents.
- 5. Morale is universally good. While the factor of morale is a function of many things, a significant contribution has been made by operations to clarification of basic objectives and the obtainment of a calculated and applied appraisal of capabilities.



5. The psychiatric program is recognized and accepted as making a significant contribution in the field of personnel selection. Throughout the trip, case problems were discussed and referral screening made.

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In addition, considerable interest was expressed in the research phase of the program, about to be recommended to the Director, as it could apply to operations.

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- 6. The medical supply program is satisfactory. The principle of centralized requisitioning from Headquarters and depot issuance at appears to be sound and relatively efficient.
- 7. Many problems remain in the medical field requiring solution. The list of these problems includes medical support to dependents. Legislation authorizing medical support to employees and dependents, similar to the authorities and benefits available to Department of Defense, is desirable.

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